

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

July 2012 – Week 2

Air Date: July 8 – July 14 (Sunday – Saturday)

TITLE: THE TEXAS TROUBLES

SUMMER 1860, AND FEAR IGNITES IN TEXAS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

JULY 8, 1860. DALLAS. IT'S THE SUMMER BEFORE THE CIVIL WAR. TEMPERATURES SOAR TO 110 DEGREES.

SUDDENLY, UNEXPLAINED FIRES BREAK OUT IN DALLAS AND NEARBY TOWNS. A DALLAS NEWSPAPER BLAMES THE FIRES ON AN ABOLITIONIST PLOT TO INCITE SLAVE REVOLT. PANIC ENSUES.

VIGILANTES HANG DOZENS OF SUSPECTS – BOTH BLACK AND WHITE. ABOLITIONIST MINISTER ANTHONY BEWLEY FLEES BUT IS CAUGHT – AND LYNCHED. LATER HIS BONES ARE DUG UP AND PLACED ATOP A FORT WORTH GROCERY STORE.

NO SECRET PLOT WAS EVER FOUND. MOST LIKELY THE FIRES WERE ACCIDENTAL.

THE TEXAS TROUBLES BEGAN 152 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

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Donald E. Reynolds, "TEXAS TROUBLES," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/vetbr>), accessed June 28, 2012. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

"Great Fire In Texas," *New York Times* (<http://www.nytimes.com/1860/07/23/news/great-fire-texas-town-dallas-destroyed-all-stores-hotels-private-dwellings.html>), accessed June 28, 2012.

Donald E. Reynolds, "PRYOR, CHARLES R.," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fpr16>), accessed June 28, 2012. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Donald E. Reynolds, "BEWLEY, ANTHONY," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fbe71>), accessed June 28, 2012. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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